



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

News Release

For Immediate Release

Daniels announces drive to recruit Hoosiers for construction training

SOUTH BEND, Indiana (October 5, 2006) – Governor Mitch Daniels today launched an aggressive training effort geared toward providing young Hoosiers and especially minority workers with the skills to succeed in the building and construction trades and for future employment in projects created by the Major Moves roads program and by Indiana’s surge of new economic development.

The governor announced that training providers have been selected and registration for participants has begun for the new “Major Opportunities” pre-apprenticeship training program, which is expected to provide training for 640 people statewide in its first year. The first round of classes will begin this fall. During the current fiscal year, \$1.6 million has been committed, with an additional \$350,000 available to training providers as incentives for high rates of program completion, placement and retention.

“Indiana is entering a building boom. It’s a unique chance for young people, and especially minority youngsters, to get a good-paying job and a strong start in life,” said Daniels, who kicked off the recruiting campaign at the South Bend WorkOne office. “We’re going to experience record opportunities, so we want everyone to know about these jobs and that the state can help them get the skills needed to obtain one.”

In South Bend, Ivy Tech Community College – South Bend and the Indiana Plan will provide training beginning in November. The pre-apprentice training will range from 12 to 16 weeks and also will be available in Indianapolis, Gary, Fort Wayne and Evansville. Another round of training classes will be conducted early next year.

“Not only do we have the governor’s strong commitment, but State Senators Earline Rogers and Glenn Howard are helping us develop this program and build support for it in the minority community. It’s designed to help these Hoosiers obtain good-paying jobs,” said Ron Stiver, commissioner of the Department of Workforce Development (DWD). The program is administered by DWD and funding is from one of the agency’s unemployment funds.

Rogers spearheaded the minority pre-apprenticeship legislation, and the General Assembly has appropriated up to \$12 million over the next six years for minority pre-apprenticeship training.

In South Bend, information and registration is available at the WorkOne office at 851 South Marietta Street in the Monroe Industrial Park. At WorkOne, registrants will be asked to complete a skills assessment that will be used with other criteria to select pre-apprenticeship participants. Candidates not selected for the pre-apprenticeship training program will be contacted by WorkOne for job placement opportunities in other industries or alternative training programs.

-more-

Stiver said some assessments may show that applicants will qualify to move directly into an apprenticeship or for another job.

“We’re entering an era of record-breaking building across Indiana,” said Daniels. “The Major Moves program alone will create thousands of new construction jobs, and then there is the record-breaking number of new businesses coming to Indiana, including such massive projects as BP, Honda, and all the new power plants and alternative fuel plants.”

Pre-apprenticeship programs are short, intensive programs designed to provide attendees with practical skills to find a job or provide a pathway into an apprenticeship program. The programs typically combine classroom instruction with a considerable amount of hands-on training to take students with little or no previous experience and supply them with the necessary skills to seek employment as an apprentice.

-30-

Media Contacts:

Jane Jankowski, Governor Daniels office, 317/232-1622, jjankowski@gov.in.gov

Joe DiLaura, DWD, 317-232-3396; cell: 317/431-4729, jdilaura@dwd.in.gov

Here are the training providers selected by the state to offer the minority pre-apprenticeship training programs:

Training Provider	Amount Awarded	Number to be Trained
<u><i>South Bend</i></u>		
Ivy Tech Community College	\$125,100	50
Indiana Plan	\$ 50,250	20
<u><i>Gary</i></u>		
Ivy Tech Community College	\$399,500	160
Indiana Plan	\$100,500	40
<u><i>Indianapolis</i></u>		
Associated Builders & Contractors	\$250,000	100
Ivy Tech Community College	\$300,250	120
Indiana Plan	\$100,500	40
AZTEC	\$ 50,250	20
<u><i>Fort Wayne</i></u>		
Ivy Tech Community College	\$125,100	50
<u><i>Evansville</i></u>		
Ivy Tech Community College	\$100,500	40
Totals	\$1,601,950	640

Here are the locations and phone numbers of the five WorkOne centers that will serve as initial registration centers for applicants for the Major Opportunities program

Indianapolis

WorkOne East
2525 North Shadeland Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46219-1770
317-358-4500

Evansville

Evansville WorkOne office
700 East Walnut St
Evansville, 47713
812-424-4473 ext 245

South Bend

WorkOne office
851 South Marietta Street
South Bend, IN 46601
1-866-383-WORK (9675)

Gary

Gary WorkOne office
1776 West 37th Ave
Gary, IN 46408
219-981-1520 ext. 340

Fort Wayne

Fort Wayne WorkOne office
201 East Rudisill Blvd. Suite 202
Fort Wayne, IN 46806
(260)745-3555, ext. 364